

3627



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re
U.S. application of: Roger A. BULLIVANT

For: CONNECTOR

U.S. Serial No.: 10/022,131

Confirmation No.: 2805

Filed: December 13, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3627

Examiner: To Be Assigned

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Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

July 11, 2002

Date of Deposit

Brian E. Harris

Name of Applicant, Assignee, or Registered Representative

Brian E. Harris

Signature

July 11, 2002

Date of Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant wishes to bring the following items to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of each document is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

No representation is made, and no representation is intended, that more relevant material does not exist, or that the order of presentation of this material in any way reflects its relative pertinence. The references cited are not intended to constitute an admission of any kind. Specifically, this presentation is not an admission that

the items listed below are properly citable against the above-identified application.

Submitted herewith is a copy of a British Search Report dated July 4, 2002, relating to the corresponding British patent application of the above-identified U.S. patent application. The British Search Report cites the following references:

- (1) European Patent Application (A2) 0 098 099, (CCL SYSTEMS LIMITED), published January 11, 1984;
- (2) Dahl, U.S. Patent No. 5,729,952, issued March 24, 1998;
- (3) Landaeus et al., U.S. Patent No. 4,836,717, issued June 6, 1989; and
- (4) Aas-Jakobsen, U.S. Patent No. 3,238,732, issued March 8, 1966.

The British Search Report placed document (1) in category "Y" with regard to claims 1, 3, 4, and 17, citing the (CCL) whole document.

The British Search Report placed document (2) in category "Y" with regard to claims 1, 3, 4, and 17, citing the (Dahl) whole document and noting Figure 4.

The British Search Report placed document (3) in category "Y" with regard to claims 1, 3, 4, and 17, citing the (Landaeus et al.) whole document.

The British Search Report placed document (4) in category "X" citing the (Aas-Jakobsen) whole document and in category "Y" with regard to claims 1, 3, 4, and 17.

Document in category "X" is defined as document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone.

Documents in category "Y" are documents of particular relevance in that the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

As this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the receipt of the first Office Action, no fee is incurred. However, if it should be determined that a fee is required, please charge any required fee (other than the issue fee) during the pendency of this application to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Please credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 18-1260.

Respectfully submitted,



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